



PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)	
	:	Examiner: Unassigned
MASUMITSU IWATA, ET AL.)	
	:	Group Art Unit: 1753
Application No.: 10/805,323)	
	:	
Filed: March 22, 2004)	
	:	
For: ZINC OXIDE FILM TREATMENT)	August 18, 2004
METHOD AND METHOD OF	:	
MANUFACTURING PHOTOVOLTAIC)	
DEVICE UTILIZING THE SAME	:	

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

In compliance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56 and in accordance with the practice under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98, the Examiner's attention is directed to the documents listed on the enclosed Form PTO-1449. Copies of the Japanese documents, together with English-language abstracts, are enclosed.

The Japanese documents are discussed at pages 3 to 5, and 18 of the specification. U.S. Patent No. 5,804,466 is believed to be an English-language counterpart of Japan 10-140373, and U.S. Patent No. 6,660,931 is believed to be an English-language

counterpart of Japan 2002-237606.

The Examiner's attention is also directed to the following U.S. Applications:

<u>APPLICATION NO.</u>	<u>FILING DATE</u>	<u>GROUP ART UNIT</u>	<u>APPLICANTS</u>
09/244,163	02/04/1999	2811	Hidenori Shiotsuka, et al.
10/101,859	03/21/2002	2812	Takaharu Kondo, et al.
10/693,914	10/28/2003	Unassigned	Takaharu Kondo, et al.

A copy of each cited Application is enclosed.

FORMAL MATTERS

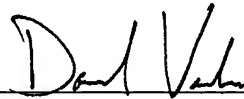
In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b), since a first Office Action on the merits of the subject application has not yet been issued, neither a statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) nor payment of a fee is believed to be required for consideration of this Information Disclosure Statement. However, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fee which may be required in connection with this paper to Deposit Account No. 06-1205. A duplicate of this paper is enclosed for that purpose.

CONCLUSION

It is respectfully requested that the above information be considered by the Examiner and that a copy of the enclosed Form PTO-1449 be returned indicating that such information has been considered.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington D.C.
office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our
address given below.

Respectfully submitted,



Damond E. Vadnais
Attorney for Applicants
Registration No.: 52,310

FITZPATRICK, CELLA, HARPER & SCINTO
30 Rockefeller Plaza
New York, New York 10112-3800
Facsimile: (212) 218-2200

DEV:llp

DC-MAIN 173563 v1

FORM PTO 1449 (modified)

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

AUG 18 2004

ATTY DOCKET NO.

03500.017969

APPLICATION NO.

10/805,323

LIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT(S)
(Use several sheets if necessary)

APPLICANT

MASUMITSU IWATA, ET AL.

FILING DATE

March 22, 2004

GROUP

1753

Date submitted to PTO: August 18, 2004

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

*EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	5,486,238	01/23/1996	Nakagawa et al.	136	259	
	5,578,141	11/26/1996	Mori et al.	136	251	
	5,660,646	08/26/1997	Kataoka et al.	136	251	
	5,684,325	11/04/1997	Kataoka et al.	257	433	
	5,718,772	02/17/1998	Mori et al.	136	251	
	5,770,463	06/23/1998	Nakagawa et al.	437	2	
	5,800,631	09/01/1998	Yamada et al.	136	251	
	5,804,466	09/08/1998	Arao et al.	438	95	
	5,973,258	10/26/1999	Shiotsuka et al.	136	252	
	6,034,323	03/07/2000	Yamada et al.	136	259	
	6,133,061	10/17/2000	Sonoda	438	69	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION YES/NO/ OR ABSTRACT
3273294	02/01/2002	Japan			Abstract
10-140373	05/26/1998	Japan			Abstract
2001-152390	06/05/2001	Japan			Abstract
2002-237606	08/23/2002	Japan			Abstract
4-119843	04/21/1992	Japan			Abstract

OTHER DOCUMENT(S) (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

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EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.
DEV:llp

FORM PTO 1449 (modified) U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE LIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT(S) (Use several sheets if necessary) Date submitted to PTO: August 18, 2004				ATTY DOCKET NO. 03500.017969		APPLICATION NO. 10/805,323	
				APPLICANT MASUMITSU IWATA, ET AL.			
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*EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
		6,133,522	10/17/2000	Kataoka et al.	136	259	
		6,113,718	09/05/2000	Yamada et al.	156	78	
		6,162,986	12/19/2000	Shiotsuka et al.	136	244	
		6,172,296	01/09/2001	Iwasaki et al.	136	256	
		6,175,075	01/16/2001	Shiotsuka et al.	136	251	
		6,307,145	10/23/2001	Kataoka et al.	136	251	
		6,316,832	11/13/2001	Tsuzuki et al.	257	747	
		6,320,115	11/20/2001	Kataoka et al.	136	251	
		6,331,474	12/18/2001	Hayashi et al.	438	476	
		6,399,873	06/04/2002	Sano et al.	136	249	
		6,414,236	07/02/2002	Kataoka et al.	136	251	
		6,472,248	10/29/2002	Shiozaki et al.	438	97	
		6,488,995	12/03/2002	Nishimoto et al.	427	574	
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION YES/NO/ OR ABSTRACT
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*EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
		6,515,216	02/04/2003	Zenko et al.	136	244	
		6,544,877	04/08/2003	Sonoda et al.	438	609	
		6,576,112	06/10/2003	Sonoda et al.	205	155	
		6,653,165	11/25/2003	Kondo et al.	438	73	
		6,660,931	12/09/2003	Toyama et al.	136	256	
		6,664,597	12/16/2003	Takeyama et al.	257	347	
		6,693,237	02/17/2004	Zenko et al.	136	251	
		6,706,336	03/16/2004	Kondo et al.	427	588	
		2002/0117661	08/29/2002	Kondo et al.	257	21	
		2003/0028486	02/06/2003	Nakamura	705	50	
		2003/0075717	04/24/2003	Kondo et al.	257	64	
		2003/0104664	06/05/2003	Kondo et al.	438	200	
		2003/0153165	08/14/2003	Kondo et al.	438	478	
		2004/0067321	04/08/2004	Kondo et al.	427	419.1	
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